

## CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1           1. (original) A locking element for holding together  
2 threaded parts such as screws and nuts against undesired loosening,  
3 comprising at least two annular lock washers lying on each other  
4 and having center holes, wherein the inner surfaces lying on each  
5 other have teeth and the outer faces are provided with teeth,  
6 characterized in that at least one center hole (14) has a rounding  
7 (6) or a groove (24) on the inner face that is provided with  
8 teeth.

1           2. (original) The locking element, possibly according  
2 to claim 1, characterized in that the tooth edges (8) of the tooth  
3 flanks (7) are oriented off-radial.

1           3. (currently amended) The locking element according to  
2 claim 1 [[or 2]], characterized in that the tooth edges (8) of the  
3 tooth flanks (7) are V-shaped.

1           4. (currently amended) The locking element according to  
2 claim 1 [[or 2]], characterized in that the tooth edges (8) of the  
3 tooth flanks (7) are U-shaped.

1           5. (currently amended) The locking element according to  
2 claim 1 [[or 2]], characterized in that the tooth edges (8) of the  
3 tooth flanks (7) are S-shaped.

4           6. (currently amended) The locking element, possibly  
5 according to ~~claims 1 to 5~~ claim 1, characterized in that the edges  
6 of the teeth (5) have a non-radial direction.

1           7. (currently amended) The locking element according to  
2 ~~one of claims~~ claim 1 [[to 6]], characterized in that the edges of  
3 the teeth (5) have a curvature.

1           8. (currently amended) The locking element, possibly  
2 according to ~~one of claims~~ claim 1 [[to 7]], characterized in that  
3 the lock washers (1, 2) are connected to each other by means of a  
4 sleeve (16, 21).

1           9. (currently amended) The locking element according to  
2 ~~one of claims 1 to~~ claim 8, characterized in that the sleeve (21)  
3 is disposed on inner faces of the center holes (14).

1           10. (currently amended) The locking element according  
2 to ~~one of claims 1 to 9~~ claim 8, characterized in that the sleeve  
3 (16) is disposed on outer faces of the lock washers (1, 2).

1           11. (currently amended) The locking element according  
2 to ~~one of claims~~ claim 1 [[to 10]], characterized in that one  
3 sleeve is disposed on the inner faces of the center holes (14) and  
4 that a further sleeve is disposed on the outer faces of the lock  
5 washers.

1           12. (currently amended) The locking element according  
2 to ~~one of claims 1 to 11~~ claim 8, characterized in that the sleeve  
3 (16, 21) has a lip that laterally extends over or into an edge of  
4 the lock washers (1, 2).

1           13. (currently amended) The locking element according  
2 to ~~one of claims 1 to~~ claim 12, characterized in that the lip is  
3 annular.

1           14. (currently amended) The locking element according  
2 to ~~one of claims 1 to~~ claim 12, characterized in that the lip is  
3 formed by tabs (18).

1           15. (currently amended) The locking element according  
2 to ~~one of claims 1 to~~ claim 12, characterized in that the tabs are  
3 annular segments (17).

1           16. (currently amended) The locking element according  
2 to ~~one of claims 1 to 12~~ claim 8, characterized in that the sleeve  
3 is a slotted ring.

1           17. (currently amended) The locking element according  
2 to ~~one of claims 1 to 16~~ claim 12, characterized in that a  
3 transition between the sleeve (16, 21) and the lip has a rounding  
4 and/or a chamfer.

1           18. (currently amended) The locking element according  
2 to ~~one of claims 1 to 15~~ claim 12, characterized in that a  
3 transition between the sleeve and the lip is designed  
4 perpendicular.

1           19. (currently amended) The locking element according  
2 to ~~one of claims 1 to 18~~ claim 12, characterized in that the lock  
3 washers have a groove (22, 23) for receiving the lip.